

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**

**JULY 14, 2009**

**PROCLAMATION OF REMOTE AREA MEDICAL (RAM) WEEK**

The Remote Area Medical (RAM) Volunteer Corps is a non-profit, volunteer, airborne relief corps dedicated to serving mankind by providing free health care, dental care, eye care, veterinary services, and technical and educational assistance to people in remote areas of the United States and the world.

Founded in 1985, the Remote Area Medical is a publicly supported all-volunteer charitable organization. The vision for Remote Area Medical developed in the Amazon rain forest where founder Stan Brock spent 15 years with the Wapishana Indians. He witnessed pain and suffering created by isolation from medical care and the near devastation of whole tribes by what would have been, to more advanced cultures, simple or minor.

Volunteer doctors, nurses, pilots, veterinarians and support workers participate in expeditions (at their own expense) and treat hundreds of patients a day in some of the world's most exciting yet remote places under some of the worst conditions. In addition, medical supplies, medicines, facilities and vehicles are all donated to the organization. Years of research and planning yielded a vast, carefully developed network of men and women who have come together to make RAM a highly mobile, remarkably efficient relief force.

**- M O R E -**

**MOTION**

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

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For the first time in RAM's history, the organization is taking on the challenge of bringing forth the "Reach Across America Program" to one of the largest metropolitan areas in the United States. Beginning August 11<sup>th</sup> through August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009, The Forum in Inglewood, California will be transformed into the RAM medical facility to provide much needed free medical, dental and vision care to the residents of Los Angeles County.

**I THEREFORE MOVE, THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

1) Proclaim the week of August 11<sup>th</sup> through August 18<sup>th</sup> as "Remote Area Medical Week" in Los Angeles County and encourage those residents of the County who are uninsured and seeking medical, dental or vision care to take part in this event offered at no cost to the participants.

2) Encourage County departments to participate in the event to the extent doing so is consistent with their mission and budgetary constraints.

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